

International



Newsletter

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Mayor's Office, City of Houston

Office of International Affairs & Development

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Message from the Mayor

The year 2005 was a busy and productive year for us. I am proud to report that last year the City received 68 international delegations and initiated/supported 13 outbound trade missions, which led to the signing of 16 partnership agreements and memorandums. As we welcome the New Year, I am tremendously excited for 2006. I foresee the City hosting and initiating even more delegations that will create more invaluable business opportunities and economic impact for Houston.

I wish you all happiness and prosperity in 2006. And, I remain very confident that the Office of International Affairs & Development will continue to provide outstanding service to you.



Bill White

Bill White, Mayor

Message from the Director

Each month, we receive numerous messages of encouragement and support from the community:

"Thank you for joining us and hosting our international delegation. It was great to work with you again. I look forward to more opportunities to work together."



Helen T. Chang

John D. Hofmeister

President and U.S. Country Chair, Shell Oil Company

"Thanks for keeping me on your email list of the International Newsletter. I always flip through it to see if there are any upcoming events of interest."

Leo R. Vasquez, III

Chief Financial Office, Cadeco Industries, Inc.

In 2006, we will continue to serve you with great pride. Thank you.

Helen T. Chang, Director

2005 Annual Report

Mayor's Office of International Affairs and Development (MOIAD)

To promote Houston in the international arena, we focused our efforts on expanding markets, building alliances and creating greater opportunities for Houston business sector. Houston continues to play a significant role in international trade and partnership. In this annual report, we are proud to list the following accomplishments.

I. 16 International Cooperation Agreements/Memorandums*

List of International Cooperation Agreements/Memorandums Signed in 2005	
Partner-Cities in Petrochemical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calgary, Canada [May, 2005]
Partners in Bilateral Cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guangzhou, Guangdong Province, China [April, 2005] [memorandum] Tokyo, Japan
International Neighbours Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shanghai, China [April, 2005]
Partner-Cities in Hi-Tech	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [memorandum] Tokyo, Japan
Sister-Airport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [memorandum] Qiangdao, China
Sister-Port	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shanghai, China [May, 2005] [memorandum] Qiangdao, China
Sister Chamber-of-Commerce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [memorandum] Qiangdao, China
Public Health/ Healthcare Cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calgary, Canada [May, 2005]
Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [memorandum] Tokyo, Japan
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shanghai No. 1 Middle School Attached To East Normal University (with St. John's School – Houston) [April 1, 2005] Calgary, Canada [May, 2005] [memorandum] Shanghai Gao'an Road No. 1 Primary School and Houston KIPP Academy 3D
Partner-City in Government Personnel Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [memorandum] Tianjin, China [memorandum] Qiangdao, China

* As of December 31, 2005, the City of Houston has **118** international cooperation agreements and **13** memorandums, a total of **131**.

II. 68 Inbound Delegations

In 2005, the Office coordinated and received **68** international delegations from over **35** cities, hosting **473** government and business leaders.

2005 Inbound Delegation	Number
Delegations	68
Delegation Members	473
Countries/Regions	19
Cities/Districts	37

III. 13 Outbound Trade Missions

13 major outbound trade missions were initiated/supported by MOIAD in 2005, total 14 cities: Aichi, Beijing, Belize City, Chicago, Dalian, Detroit, Guanzhou, Hong Kong, Panama City, Qingdao, Shanghai, Tianjin, Tokyo, and Washington D.C.

IV. 8 International Events

8 major events were organized and supported by MOIAD in 2005, such as the Tokyo City Promotion (featuring the Governor of Tokyo), Celebrating Shanghai in Houston Festivities (featuring the Mayor of Shanghai), and recently the Building Educational Bridges between U.S. and China Luncheon (featuring the Vice Minister of Education).

V. 4 Publications

- **International Newsletter**
Launched on February 1, its circulation reaches over 3,000, local and international.
- **MOIAD Website**
Launched in January, the website provides the international community with a comprehensive source of information about Houston and MOIAD.
- **International Community Event Calendar**
Published bi-monthly, the event calendar lists upcoming major international events.
- **MOIAD Brochure**
Printed in February, the brochure provides an overview of MOIAD services, helping to form stronger partnerships with local organizations and oversea counterparts.

VI. 7 Mayor's International Affairs & Development Councils (MIADC)

Appointed by Mayor Bill White, the 7 new councils focus on Africa, Americas, Asia, Canada, Europe, Middle East/North Africa, and South Asia regions, serving as a valuable resource to the preservation, promotion, and continued growth of Houston's standing as a renowned international city.

VII. 22 Interns

Established in January, the MOIAD internship program is a year-round joint venture program with Rice University and the University of Houston. In 2005, MOIAD had a total of 22 interns.

VIII. Hurricane Katrina Information Office

Established by MOIAD at the Reliant Astrodome, the temporary information office facilitated the consular corps in its efforts to located and assist international evacuees who were sheltered in Houston.

December 2005 Highlights

Vice Minister Visits Houston for Education Partnership

Two hundred and fifty people gathered on December 2 at the InterContinental Hotel to welcome one of China's foremost thinkers in the field of education, Madam Wu Qidi, Vice Minister of Education. Organized by the Mayor's Office of International Affairs and Development and the Houston World Affairs Council, the luncheon drew attention to the many partnerships that have developed between the United States and China, between our universities and our educators.

Did You Know?

The number of Chinese mainland students enrolled in the U.S. during the 2004-2005 academic year reached 62,523 and the number of visiting scholars to the U.S. has increased by 15%, reached 17,000.

Source: <http://english.people.com.cn>

Madam Wu's speech recognized the importance of learning and innovation to the quality of life for both China and the United States. In addition to the presence of the Vice Minister were remarks of Mayor Bill White, Council Member Adrian Garcia, and Mrs. Andrea White. The event highlighted the growing dialogue between Houstonian and Chinese counterparts in a great variety of sectors, especially in the increasingly competitive field of higher education. – **By Matthew Shailer**

Ambassador of Spain Discusses Growing Industries and Commercial Possibilities

On December 7, the Greater Houston Partnership hosted His Excellency Carlos Westendorp, Spanish Ambassador to the United States, as he presented the role of Spanish businesses and firms in Houston, which account for nearly \$1 billion in trade in 2004.

Spain is one of Houston's leading trade partners. As Spain's economy continues to grow, the people of Spain are hoping to shape their image of a country powered in technology, solar energy, and banking as well as traditional industries such as wine making.

– **By Monica M. Faridi**

Did You Know?

USA is the 2nd largest investor in equities in Spain after the U.K. More than 600 U.S. companies have subsidiaries in Spain

Source: <http://www.amchamspain.com>



(left to right) The Honorable Julio Montesino, consul general of Spain in Houston, Joseph Hafner, chairman of Riviana Foods, Inc., His Excellency Carlos Westendorp, Spanish ambassador to the United States.

WTO Brings Opportunities and Challenges to China

On December 8, the Greater Houston Partnership, the Texas Governor's Office of Asia/Pacific Economic Development & Tourism, and the Mayor's Office of International Affairs and Development welcomed Zhou Ming, deputy director of China's Ministry of Commerce.

"A more direct international approach needs to be addressed," said Madame Zhou. "After entering WTO, China is facing a fierce competition in the global market, in addition to the Chinese mainland market per se."

Madame Zhou's traveling to Houston marked her third visit to

Texas. "The people of China need to first learn about the cities and countries abroad. It is through the understanding and knowledge of the rest of the world, a productive international partnership can be formed." – **By Monica M. Faridi**

Did You Know?

According to Madame Zhou, as stated by the World Trade Organization (WTO), foreign investment in China reached over \$50 billion in 2004.



Madame Zhou Ming, deputy director of China's Ministry of Commerce (middle).

America's Opportunity: A World of Peace and Prosperity

On December 14, Ambassador Richard Haass, president of the Council on Foreign Relations, spoke to the members of the Houston World Affairs Council. Ambassador Haass discussed the future of the U.S. foreign policy. He stated that the United States has a historic opportunity to move events in a positive direction and build a world of peace and prosperity by being engaged and informed, and working together, organizing around institutions and with partnerships that leverage all strengths.

Ambassador Haass believes that an integrated response to such problems as terrorism, the spread of nuclear weapons and genocide and cooperation between nations to end protectionist policies will enhance the nation's unity and economy. "Multilateralism will strengthen the United States," said Ambassador Haass.

– **By Joanne Howard**



(left to right) Alan Crain, Jr., Richard Haass, and Robert Clarke.

Special Thanks

*Article submitted by Joanne Howard,
Houston World Affairs Council.*

Poised for Future Growth: The Houston Airport System

On December 16, the Transportation and Infrastructure Advisory Committee of the Greater Houston Partnership presented the *State of the Airport Address* featuring Richard Vacar, director of the Houston Airport System (HAS). Not only did HAS close the year with the number one airport in the country for on-time performance, but also with the addition of a new air route to Latin America and the achievement of operating the largest federal inspections services facility in the country. “Other airports around the country have always looked to our airports for leadership and guidance,” said Richard Vacar. “In times of critical need, it is especially important to us to respond to the needs of others as best as we can.”

Did You Know?

According to the Houston Airport System, over the last 10 years, Latin America comprised the highest increases in its passenger traffic with a record-setting growth of 135%.

“The international community knows that our airports are capable of handling any type of aircraft and that our level of customer service satisfaction is above that of most,” Vacar concluded. “In the years to come, our numbers are only going to continue to grow.”

– By Juan M. Alanis

Special Thanks

Article submitted by Juan M. Alanis, communication specialist supervisor of Houston Airport System.

Upcoming Major Events

URAA Celebrates Christmas with Russian Traditions

United Russian American Association of Houston (URAA) was formed to promote Russian culture and traditions through extensive community outreach in the Houston metropolitan area. Since its establishment, URAA has

Did You Know?

The Russian Orthodox Church still uses the old Julian calendar; therefore, its Christmas celebration falls on January 7th, 13 days behind the West. It's a day of both solemn ritual and joyous celebration. Before this date, Orthodox Russians fast for six weeks. This Fast is completely vegetarian and requires that there must not be any parties or gatherings.

Source: <http://www.travelcentre.com>.

worked with other non-profit organizations and has initiated dialogs with entities working on behalf of adopted children from Russia. To celebrate Christmas with the Russian traditions, URAA is organizing a *Christmas Tree* party for children. The festivities will take place on January 8 at the Jewish Community Center. For more information, contact Elena Philips at elena_philips@msn.com.

– By Natalie M. Kassenyeva

Special Thanks

Article submitted by Natalie M. Kassenyeva, American Turkish Association of Houston.

NEMEX-TEX Plans for Regional Logistical Integration

On January 19 and 20, NEMEX-TEX will host a logistic workshop in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, to discuss factors of logistics competitiveness for the Northeastern region of Mexico. Leaders of the states of Chihuahua, Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas, and Texas will honor this occasion. The workshop includes panelists from influential organizations in Mexico. Speakers will discuss infrastructure improvements, telecommunications, transportation and private financing.

NEMEX-TEX partnership permits policies to be instituted between North Eastern Mexico and Texas. This affiliation allows Texas' entrepreneurs to establish direct investment, joint ventures and partnerships in northeastern Mexico. For more information, contact 713-963-9973.

– By Matthew Shailer

Did You Know?

Nuevo Leon is one of Mexico's wealthiest states. In addition to its well-known deep-rooted business culture, Nuevo Leon is also home to the recent United Nations International Conference.

Source: www.mexconnect.com

Energy Capital Becomes Venture Capital

One of Houston's foremost leaders of technological innovation, the Houston Technology Center, is hosting the 2nd annual Energy Technology Venture Capital Conference over the course of two days on January 25-26 at the Marriott Westchase Hotel, which is expected to draw more than 300 IT professionals.

The event includes a forum featuring 35 emerging and innovative technology companies, which allows the companies to present their products and services to the larger audience of investors, cooperative companies and prospective clients from around the world. Among the speakers are John W. Gibson, executive managing director of Fox Paine & Company, LLC, and Arthur L. Smith, chairman of John S. Herold, Inc. For more information, please call 713-658-1750.

– By Matthew Shailer

Did You Know?

The Houston Technology Center, in collaboration with other state organizations and under the auspices of the state government, manages a fund to support emerging technology businesses, the Texas Emerging Technology Fund (TETF).

The TETF was created in June, 2005, by Governor Rick Perry, allocating \$200 million to assist small to mid-size technology firms to launch sooner, expedite the commercialization of new life-changing inventions out of the lab and into the hands of consumers, and to improve research at Texas universities.

Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com>

Sister City Spotlight – Huelva

Huelva

This month the International Newsletter will continue to showcase each one of Houston's 16 sister cities around the globe with a closer look at each distinctive locale. This month we feature Huelva, Spain.

This year Houston celebrates the 30th anniversary of its sister city relationship with Huelva, Spain. Huelva lies on a large river estuary on the Atlantic coast. The mineral wealth of the area north of Huelva brought Phoenicians, Greeks and Romans who, along with the later arrivals of the Moors, left their archaeological mark on the city. Development of copper deposits much later by British companies transformed Huelva into a boom town.

Established by the Phoenicians as an important port and major trading post, Christopher Columbus sailed from Huelva for his historic voyage in the 15th century. Trade resulting from Columbus' journey brought increased wealth to Huelva.

Mining activity in the 19th century led to the industrial development of the city. Since the 1950's, most of Huelva's wealth has come from its flourishing petrochemical industry. Spain and Houston share extensive business, trade, and cultural connections. In 2004, Houston's seaborne trade with Spain totaled over \$930 million and air cargo trade was valued at \$53.7 million. More than 15 Houston companies have subsidiaries in Spain and there are 4 foreign-owned Spanish companies in Houston.



Huelva, Andalucía, Southern Spain.

Did You Know?

During the mining and metallurgic trimillennial tradition of the region, the Port of Huelva was the perfect destination for many boats coming from all countries around the world. Swords, daggers, spearheads and even a Greece helmet are proves and witnesses of the history of the Port.

It is also from this historical place, nowadays integrated into the port, that the three Caravels led by Cristobal Colón (Christopher Columbus) made possible the discovery of the New World. Thus, the Port of Huelva, full of history, becomes like a catapult ready to jump to the new.

Source: <http://www.puertohuelva.com>

The Houston-Huelva Sister City Association promotes ties to Spain and hosts cultural programs throughout the year. Please contact the Houston International Protocol Alliance at 713-227-3395 for more information about the association's upcoming activities and how to become involved.

– By Alma D. Maldonado

Special Thanks

Article submitted by Alma D. Maldonado, Houston International Protocol Alliance.

Meet the Consular Corps in Houston

Greece *Ελλάδα*

This month we go to the cradle of civilization to speak with The Honorable Stelios Gavrill, Greek Consul General in Houston, to discuss everything from Olympics to Port partnership.



Consul General
Stelios Gavrill

Greece's lush greenery and famous mountains has made the country a world attraction since mythological times. As the Consul General of Greece, Stelios Gavrill has served in Houston for the past two years, representing a total of 40,000 Greeks in Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

so much that the consulate of Greece in New Orleans has moved to Houston in early 2005."

For over 100 years, Greece has maintained an important alliance with the United States. In the past 15 years, Houston's partnership with Greece has evolved into a vital bond which has benefited both economies. "Business in Houston and its dynamic economy has increasing importance towards the already strong ties Houston and Greece share," comments Consul General Gavrill. Greece, as a world leader in shipping and with one of the strongest merchant fleets in the world, has preserved an essential relationship with Houston, due to its large port. "Houston's bay is a shipping attaché for Greece,



Map of Greece

Greek community are constantly active in Houston, hosting Cinema Nights, October's Greek Festival, and a plethora of distinguished speakers, presenting economic, political, archaeological discoveries, and much more. Currently, the consulate is busy with Greek Ambassador Alexander Mallias's visit to Houston to celebrate Greek Independence Day on March 25. With an increasing Greek population in Houston, Consul General Gavrill foresees an opportunity for the growth of cooperation between Houston and Greece in three major sectors: "There will be a future in the health care system, tourist industry, Greek shipping activities in Houston, and other services too," says Consul General Gavrill.

– By Monica M. Faridi

Did You Know?

Greece counts as a world leader in shipping (first in terms of ownership of vessels and third by flag registration). The export of manufactured goods, including telecommunications hardware and software, and fuels, accounts for a large part of the rest of Greek income.

Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greece>

International Hub: University of Houston Small Business Development Center Network

The University of Houston Small Business Development Center Network helps new and mature businesses grow and successfully compete in today's global economy. Free business consulting and affordable training seminars teach entrepreneurs and business owners how to penetrate new markets both locally and internationally, how to manage operations, and how to access capital to support business growth and development.



Mike Young, executive director of the University of Houston Small Business Development Center Network.

The mission of the Network is to spur economic growth in southeast Texas by helping small and mid-sized businesses expand, creating new jobs, increasing sales and obtaining financing. Mike Young is the Executive Director of the Network. His experience includes five years as a senior auditor with Price Waterhouse working primarily with small companies. Mike was also vice president and controller of an international drilling and oil field services

company. He is a member of the State Bar of Texas and the American Bar Association. The Network's goals are 1) Help businesses find new business opportunities including export activities in world markets; 2) Help businesses successfully access capital; 3) Bring jobs into the community by helping Houston-area businesses grow and become more successful.

Special Thanks

Article submitted by the University of Houston Small Business Development Center Network.

The University of Houston Small Business Development Center Network has grown from one center that served just over 1,000 consulting clients and training participants in 1984, its first year of operations, to a network of fourteen centers that provided assistance to almost 20,000 entrepreneurs and small business customers last year. A program of the University of Houston C.T. Bauer College of Business and a resource partner of the U.S. Small Business Administration, the Network includes two specialty centers: one to help clients win government contracts and another to guide them through the international trade arena. For more information, visit www.sbdcnetwork.uh.edu.

Did You Know?

Programs and Services

Throughout its history, the Network has focused on promoting access to capital, assisting clients with obtaining \$87 million in start-up and expansion capital in its last program year. The Network hosts workshops and seminars to walk participants through the loan process. Consultants work one-on-one to help clients put together a viable loan package, assisting with the Export Working Capital and International Trade loan programs.

The Network also helps businesses identify new markets and business opportunities. Workshops and seminars teach attendees how to do business with large corporations, government agencies and in foreign countries. Consultants provide free, hands-on assistance to assess a company's readiness to enter a new market and potential for success.

The Global Bridge: Asian Chamber of Commerce

Each month the International Newsletter will feature a section "The Global Bridge" introducing the chambers of commerce in Houston dedicated to promoting Houston's international image.

In 1990, the Asian Chamber of Commerce was founded by business people who felt the need for a chamber that could serve Houston's growing Asian community, linking them with local and out-of-country businesses.

In its 15 years of existence, the Chamber has undergone many changes, making it one of the most visible Asian organizations in Houston. The membership has increased to over 550 in the past 2 years and approximately 50% of the membership is non-Asian.



John Kim, chairman-elect of the Asian Chamber of Commerce.

John Kim, Chairman-elect for 2006 and one of the founding members of the Asian Chamber of Commerce, hopes to see the Asian Chamber working as an umbrella organization to attract other smaller Asian chambers. "The Asian Chamber is attracting younger, second-generation entrepreneurs that are spurring first-generation to be more active," says John Kim.

In the last 2 years, Elsie Huang has served as the president of the Chamber. She keeps the members informed and involved by sending e-mails and newsletters as well as partnering with other chambers in the city for networking opportunities.



Elsie Huang, president of the Asian Chamber of Commerce.

The annual *Golf Tournament* has been a successful avenue of exposure for the companies in the

Chamber. The *Two Epicurean Nights* has given the Chamber an opportunity to get acquainted with many of Houston's finest restaurants and to introduce them to the Chamber's membership. In this past year, the events were well received by the community with attendances of over 500 at both. The annual galas have been the main source of funding for the Chamber and have drawn crowds of more than 800 guests every year.

The establishment of the Asian Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Foundation is another milestone for the Chamber. This year, the Asian Chamber of Commerce partnered with Houston Community College to award 6 scholarships to Asian students. The University of Houston Downtown has become a partner with the Chamber and has agreed to continue assisting the scholarship winners upon completion of their two years at the College. For more information, visit <http://www.asianchamber-hou.org/>



Asian Chamber of Commerce Epicurean Night 2005

Special Thanks

Article submitted by the Asian Chamber of Commerce.

International Frontier – Abdel Fustok

Every month we focus on a Houstonian who has made an indelible mark on our city through outstanding contributions and services to the growth of Houston as an international city.



Dr. Abdel Fustok

A “jack of all trades,” a respected doctor, a strong community advocate, a thought-provoking author, and an avid runner, Dr. Abdel Fustok is the founders of Arab American Educational Foundation as well as Arab American Cultural and Community Center, the co-founder of the Rotary International Health Foundation, director of the Institute of Cosmetic Surgery, and the author of *A Monologue about Dialogue*.

Raised in Syria, educated in France, Dr. Fustok believes Houston to be a fascinating city and his favorite. With his community involvement, both in business and culture, and his past 30 years living in Houston, Dr. Fustok has seen Houston transformed into a cosmopolitan, international city.

“When I first moved to Houston, there was so much undeveloped land. Now planet earth is represented within the city.” To Dr. Fustok, Houston’s China Town and the street signs in different languages carry a symbolic meaning of different

ethnicities embodied in Houston. Amazed by the city’s growth, Dr. Fustok has fallen in love with all of Houston’s characteristics.

After years of commitment to the Arab community, Dr. Fustok continues to keep Houston’s international community alive. To Dr. Fustok, culture is a set of shared meanings that bond people together. Recently, Dr. Fustok has received the Paul Harris Fellow Award from the Rotary International Health Foundation and Community Builder Award from Shriners of Texas, just to name a few. As a leader in countless organizations ranging from health to culture, he believes that Houston has opened its arms to different cultures, which in turn, has allowed for a strong and high quality community.

Holding MD, PA, and PhD degrees, Dr. Fustok has dedicated his entire life to building dialogs between the international communities and it is what continues to keep him motivated.

– **By Ilhaam A. Jaffer and
Monica M. Faridi**

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★★★★★
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**Next Submission Deadline:
January 20, 2006**

January – 2006 Event Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Venue/Contact
Jan 11	11:00am	HISD: Armandina Farias Early Childhood Center dedication ceremony	Venue: 515 E. Rittenhouse Contact: 713-225-5900
Jan 11	11:30am-1:15pm	Asian Chamber of Commerce: Business Opportunities monthly luncheon	Venue: One Arena Penthouse Contact: 713-782-7222
Jan 11	5:30pm-7:30pm	Emerging Business Council: Partner Connection	Venue: Hyatt Regency Hotel Contact: 713-844-3692
Jan 12	6:00pm-7:30pm	Houston World Affairs Council: Putin's Russia, Ambitions and Constraints	Venue: The Junior League Contact: 713-522-7811
Jan 13	11:00am-1:00pm	Hispanic Chamber of Commerce: Ambassador's meeting	Venue: 2900 Woodridge Contact: 713-644-7070
Jan 13	11:30am-1:30pm	Greater Houston Partnership: 2006 Annual Meeting	Venue: Hilton Americas Contact: 713-844-3695
Jan 13	7:00am-9:00am	Houston Technology Center: Internet Marketing for Start-Up Companies	Venue: HTC Contact: 713-658-1750
Jan 14-21	--	Greater Houston Partnership: Trade & Business Development Mission	Venue: India Contact: 713-844-0261
Jan 17	8:30am-1:00pm	Texas Diversity Council: Women in Leadership Symposium, "Breaking Barriers & Going Beyond"	Venue: Hilton Hotel Contact: 713-497-7529
Jan 17	N.A.	Bilateral US-Arab Chamber of Commerce: Reporting the Middle East, A Panel Discussion of Journalists	Venue: The Junior League Contact: 713-880-8168
Jan 17	6:30pm-8:00pm	Houston World Affairs Council: Reporting the Middle East, A Panel Discussion of Journalists	Venue: The Junior League Contact: 713-522-7811
Jan 18	7:30am	Hispanic Chamber of Commerce: Networking Breakfast & Mini Trade Fair	Venue: Westin Oaks Hotel Contact: 713-644-7070
Jan 19-20	--	NEMEX-TEX: State of Chihuahua Logistical Issues workshop	Venue: Monterrey Crowne Plaza Hotel Contact: 713-963-9973
Jan 19	8:30am	Hispanic Chamber of Commerce: Professional Service Seminar	Venue: 2900 Woodridge Contact: 713-644-7070
Jan 19	4:00pm-5:30pm	Houston Technology Center: Service Provider Network Meeting	Venue: HTC Contact: 713-658-1750
Jan 19	5:30pm-7:30pm	Houston Technology Center: HTC Mixer	Venue: HTC Contact: 713-658-1750
Jan 19	5:30pm-7:30pm	Rice University: Rice Alliance 5 th Annual Nanotechnology Venture Forum	Venue: McNair Hall Contact: 713-658-1750
Jan 19	6:30pm-8:30pm	Tri-County Black Chamber of Commerce: Orientation	Venue: HCC (3100 Main) Contact: 713-353-0386
Jan 23	11:30am-1:30pm	Japan-America Society of Houston: Meet with President & US Country Chair of Shell Oil Company	Venue: The Petroleum Club Contact: 713-963-0121

Jan 24	6:00pm-7:30pm	Houston World Affairs Council: China Today	Venue:	The Westin Oaks Hotel
			Contact:	713-522-7811
Jan 25	8:00am-9:15am	Asian Chamber of Commerce: Networking Breakfast Meeting	Venue:	Hilton Garden Inn
			Contact:	achen@metlife.com
Jan 25	5:30pm	Hispanic Chamber of Commerce: After Hours Networking Mixer	Venue:	6201 South Loop East
			Contact:	713-644-7070
Jan 25-26	--	Houston Technology Center: Energy Technology Venture Capital Conference	Venue:	Houston Marriott Westchase Hotel
			Contact:	713-658-1750
Jan 26	Noon-1:30pm	Greater Houston Partnership: State of the City Address	Venue:	Hilton Americas
			Contact:	713-844-3650
Jan 26	8:30am-1:30pm	Global Energy Management Institute: Will this energy trading boom last?	Venue:	University of Houston Hilton Hotel
			Contact:	713-743-4895
Jan 26	6:00pm-7:30pm	Houston World Affairs Council: My Year in Iraq, The Struggle to Build a Future of Hope	Venue:	The Westin Oaks Hotel
			Contact:	713-522-7811
Jan 27	8:00pm	Multicultural Education and Counseling through the Arts: The Kailas String Quartet featuring Alejandro Vela	Venue:	1900 Kane Street
			Contact:	713-802-9370

We have one simple goal: to promote Houston as a renowned international city.

The contents are intended for general information purposes only.